

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being vague and indefinite.

First considering then the Examiner's indication that the IDS recites three application serial numbers and that an application is not prior art. Applicants note in this regard, that the items mentioned by the Examiner are not listed on a PTO Form 1449 and instead appear on a List of Related Cases, meaning applications that are co-pending that name one or more of the inventors of the present application. It is therefore respectfully submitted that these cases merit entry on the record as being related cases. A clean copy of this list is attached for being dated and initialed. To the contrary, the application when filed contained a PTO Form 1449 listing three Japanese patent publications, the publication date of each of which is listed on the 1449 form. Copies of each of such publication were filed November 13, 2003 with the application. A duplicate copy of this form is attached hereto for the purpose of permitting them to be reviewed and properly initialed by the Examiner so as to make these references of record.

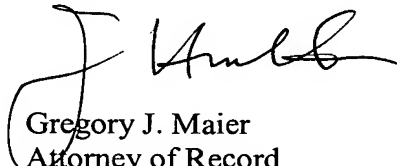
It is to be noted that amendments have now been made to the specification for closer compliance with U.S. patent practice and procedure and to make minor grammatical changes thereto. Accordingly, entry of these amendments to the specification are respectfully requested.

Considering next then the rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, it is to be noted that these claims have now been amended so as to delete the explanatory phrases objected to by the Examiner and to amend the language of the claim to claim at least a first clamping arm and a second clamping arm. Such amendments also delete

the quotation marks appearing in Claim 5. Additional amendments have been made to the claims for closer compliance with U.S. patent practice and procedure and it is therefore respectfully submitted that each of Claims 1-12 now merit indication of allowability with the same being hereby respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the amendments to the specification and claims, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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